neglected, their collection and the separation of the wax being deemed too laborious to compensate the trouble.

In Dr. Thatcher's Dispensatory, we are informed, on the authority of Dr. Mann, that the bark of the root of the Myrica cerifera is emetic. With a view to examining thoroughly its medicinal properties, Dr. S. L. Dana, in 1818, made it the subject of an inaugural dissertation. He found that the powdered bark was acrid and astringent, but did not appear to possess any other qualities than were attributable to those two. Moderate doses of the powder and decoction produced no effect on the stomach or bowels. Large doses, for instance two scruples, were swallowed with difficulty on account of their acrimony, and occasioned heat and nausea at the stomach. Larger doses, of a drachm, produced a powerful burning sensation and vomiting. Costiveness generally followed the use of this medicine. The powder, when snuffed up the nose, proved powerfully sternutatory, and when applied to the fungous granulations of an ulcerated leg, it produced so much pain as compelled the patient to wash it off.

We may then consider the bark of the Myrica as an acrid stimulant and astringent. That it

sometimes proves emetic, in large doses, is to be explained in the same way as the operation of mustard and horse-radish, which some of the older physicians employed as emetics. When the stomach is burdened with an undue quantity of stimulus, it naturally tends to relieve itself by vomiting.

On the whole, we are to esteem the Myrica cerifera as more interesting in a chemical, than a medical point of view. The pleasant aroma of the water distilled from the berries, and the application of the wax to some purposes of pharmacy, are all, that this shrub at present offers, much deserving the attention of physicians.

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